

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/516,430

Applicant(s)

CHESTON ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher A. Revak

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to November 10, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 24-44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/15/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



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1/26/05

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Craig Yudell on January 19, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 36, on line 7, delete [(i)] and replace with -(a)--;
on line 10, delete [(j)] and replace with -(b)--;
on line 12, delete [(k)] and replace with -(c)--;
on line 14, delete [(l)] and replace with -(d)--;
on line 15, delete [(m)] and replace with -(e)--;
on line 16, delete [(n)] and replace with -(f)--;
on line 17, delete [(o)] and replace with -(g)--; and
on line 19, delete [(p)] and replace with -(h)--.

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on January 26, 2004 and are acceptable. The replacement sheet for Figure 6 submitted on August 10, 2004 has been found to be acceptable by the examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on September 15 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

It was not found to be taught in the prior art of prior to a client computer system completing a boot process, and before an operating system controls the client computer system, and the password is required prior to making the client computer system accessible to the user, an alert is transmitted to a server in response to an incorrect entry of the password. The user is prompted with an interrogative that is associated with the user, and the interrogative is different from the password. By replying to the server with the correct response to the interrogative, the server transmits the password to the client computer system wherein the received password is completed prior to completing the boot process.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Tiem, US 2004/0210518 discloses of a user forgetting their password and having to answer a question correctly, then an email with the password is sent to the user.

O'Neill et al, US 2003/0065954 discloses of a user forgetting their password and having to answer a question, then the host computer sends a command to the user's computer allowing the user's password to be reset.

Kwan, US 2002/0040346 discloses of a user forgetting a password and being presented with a challenge question, upon correctly answering the question, an email is sent to the user containing the password.

Williams et al, US 2002/0032573 discloses of a user forgetting a password and being presented with a question, upon correctly answering the question, an email is sent to the user containing the password.

Froseth et al, US 2002/0004749 discloses of a user forgetting a password and being presented with a question, upon correctly answering the question, an email is sent to the user containing the password.

Thompson et al, U.S. Patent 6,725,382 discloses of requiring a password entered at the start of the boot operation of a computer.

Cho, U.S. Patent 6,647,498 discloses of requiring entry of a password and comparison of a password that is stored in CMOS RAM in order for the boot operation to proceed.

Grawrock, U.S. Patent 6,360,322 discloses of providing questions and answers to a user if they forget their password and upon correctly answering the questions, the user is authenticated.

Kong, U.S. Patent 6,243,813 discloses of booting a computer if a correct password has been entered.

Cromer et al, U.S. Patent 6,161,178 discloses of a password requirement for a system to boot a boot device.

Ryu, U.S. Patent 6,067,625 discloses of password recovery and performing subsequent booting after entry of a correct password.

Sloan et al, U.S. Patent 5,708,777 discloses of requiring a password to be entered for a computer to complete booting and then provides the user with access to general PC functions and resources.

Norton™ Password Manager 2004 discloses of a utility for retrieving password information used of for logins.

Held, "Password Recovery Windows Toolkit" discloses of a password recovery utility that views files to recover the passwords.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher A. Revak whose telephone number is 571-272-3794. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 6:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CR

January 20, 2005

Christopher Revak

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1/20/05